



THE EARLY YEARS HOME VISITATION OUTCOMES PROJECT OF WI

January 23, 2008

To: Members of the Assembly Committee on Children and Family Law
From: The Early Years Home Visitation Outcomes Project of WI

Please accept this letter as a strong statement of support for the AB 663 relating to child abuse and neglect prevention grants which has been introduced by the Joint Legislative Council.

The Early Years Home Visitation Outcomes Project of WI focuses its efforts to measure common outcomes across the various home visitation program curricula and models used in Wisconsin. By providing the training, support and an outcome measurement framework, this Project improves the accountability and quality of home visitation in our state. At the present time, our Project consists of 8 sites in urban and rural settings throughout WI. We have developed an outcome measurement system founded in best practice and current research findings for successful home visitation. We have built collaborative relations with the State of WI Division of Public Health and Department of Health and Family Services to define quality and quality improvement efforts for the field of home visitation. AB 663 provides a mechanism to ensure that grants for home visitation services in our state are awarded to programs who implement best practice standards, sound evaluation measures and are integrated with other community resources. AB 663 provides direction to home visitation programs by articulating outcomes and stipulating technical assistance and competency training developed by a collaborative effort of leaders from many organizations in our state deemed reasonable for home visiting programs in Wisconsin.

We encourage you to move this bill forward in a timely manner as we give our full support to this pending legislation.

The Early Years Home Visitation Outcomes Project of WI, Statewide Steering Committee

- Jennifer Hammel, Child Abuse Prevention Fund-Children's Hospital & Health System
- Susan Rodriguez, Parents Plus, Inc. (WI statewide Parental Information Resource Center, (PIRC) recipient, funded by the US Dept of Education)
- Sandy Ellis, Children's Service Society of Wisconsin (Marathon County)
- Kathleen Nolan, Exchange Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse, Inc. (Dane County)
- Mary Jo Tittl, Family Resource Centers of Sheboygan County
- Polly Snodgrass, Family Services of Northeast Wisconsin (Brown and Door Counties)
- Barbara Peterson, Healthy Families of Waukesha County
- Colleen Homb, Lakeshore Family Resources/Lakeshore CAP (Manitowoc County)